

**The Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations  
to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (COAC)**

**October 29, 2015  
Report of the Work of the COAC  
Subcommittee on Trusted Trader Program**

**Co-Chairs  
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**1. Background:**

At the April 24, 2015, COAC meeting, the second quarterly meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> Term Commercial Operations Advisory Committee (COAC), it was decided that topics from the 13<sup>th</sup> Term Trusted Trader subcommittee would continue to be worked on in the 14<sup>th</sup> Term. The Trusted Trader subcommittee objectives and scope are consistent with the official charter of COAC.

**2. Objectives and Scope of Activities:**

It is expected that, during the lifespan of this subcommittee, the focus will be on providing advice and recommendations in one or more of the following areas, and reviewing the scope and capability of meeting both national and international criteria through:

- Trusted Trader Program
- C-TPAT/AEO Programs

**Trusted Trader Program** - The subcommittee has been briefed on the status of the Trusted Trader pilot and is awaiting program documentation to review, discuss, and formulate recommendations. It understands that the pilot program is still under review and looks forward to the pilot conclusion to evaluate the criteria used in the selection and assessment of the participants, the capability to meet national and international Trusted Trader program requirements, and discuss the strategy to expand participation in the program and future program objectives.

**C-TPAT/AEO** - The Trusted Trader Subcommittee has been briefed on the status of the C-TPAT exporter entity and the efforts of the C-TPAT international branch.

**3. Activities and Progress:**

**Meetings:** During the period July 2015 through October 2015, the Trusted Trader Subcommittee met three times as a full committee. At the meetings, the Subcommittee received a briefing on the Trusted Trader Pilot program and discussed recommendations for program metrics and future

Trusted Trader benefits. The review of the completed pilot documentation is still to be conducted, to determine how best to streamline and improve the existing process and shorten the overall implementation and certification process. International capability and requirements should also be considered to ensure the robustness and value / benefit that can be generated to those parties participating while maintaining the capability to ensure security risk assessment is accommodated.

Next Steps:

- Review Trusted Trader program documentation and make recommendations on program implementation and other possible benefits with a focus on cost savings, supply chain efficiencies, international implication and simplification.
- Monitor activities of other COAC subcommittees where the Trusted Trader concept intersects such as the Export Subcommittee's Option 4 Working Group, the 1USG's Single Window Working Group for PGA requirements, the Trade Modernization Subcommittee's work on the Centers of Excellence and Expertise, and the work of the Global Supply Chain Subcommittee on C-TPAT and International/AEO alignment.

The Trusted Trader Subcommittee recognizes the support of our CBP partners and their efforts to keep the work of the subcommittee moving forward, and welcomes the addition of export CBP C-TPAT expertise to embellish and facilitate the committee in moving forward on future recommendations.